

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1588 - HB 1558

February 11, 2018

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes an amateur radio motor vehicle license registrant that holds an amateur radio operator class license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to purchase an amateur radio special license plate without the imposition of the additional annual fee of \$25.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Decrease State Revenue - \$28,500/Highway Fund
\$1,500/General Fund**

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-4-203(a)(4)(A), persons applying for an amateur radio motor vehicle license are required to pay an annual fee of \$25 in addition to all other regular fees, unless such persons meet the qualifications established in Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-4-229(e).
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 55-4-229(e) establishes that the following persons are exempt from paying the additional \$25 fee: members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES); registrants with credentials approved by the county emergency management director; and members of a squad or group that actively participates in needed services during any and all emergencies as determined by the civil defense, rescue squads or other organizations that are engaged in volunteer emergency services.
- This legislation would exempt the \$25 fee from all individuals holding a class license as an amateur radio operator by the FCC, rather than just those that are members of the ARES.
- The DOR reports that at least 3,878 motor vehicles are currently registered with an amateur radio license specialty plate, of which approximately 1,200 individuals pay the additional \$25 fee each year.
- It is assumed that all 1,200 of such individuals will become exempt from paying the fee upon passage of this legislation.
- The recurring decrease in state revenue is estimated to be \$30,000 (1,200 x \$25).
- Approximately 95 percent of motor vehicle registration fees is allocated to the Highway Fund; the remaining 5 percent is allocated to the General Fund.

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- The recurring decrease in revenue to the Highway Fund is estimated to be \$28,500 (\$30,000 x 95%); the recurring decrease in revenue to the General Fund is estimated to be \$1,500 (\$30,000 x 5%).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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